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she might do as she pleased without interference. They teased and tormented Greece, as a cat does a mouse, because she is little, but Turkey they did not dare to molest because they knew their own iniquitous souls well enough to see clearly that the moment they began to touch Turkey they would be at each other's throats. The boasted "Concert of Europe" has proved itself to be a pitiable and contemptible sham, existing merely as a means by which each nation in its selfishness may checkmate and outwit the others, and not because it cares much if anything for the real good of European society. There ought to be a Concert of Europe, and will be some day, which will do something for the prosperity and peace of the Old World, but it will be of a very different stripe from that which for the past two years has been just coherent enough to allow, or rather to stimulate, iniquity to do as it pleases.

We need not take up space to more than say that Turkey, by a long series of impious deeds, has been, in her full measure, the ultimate cause of the existing hostilities, and we sincerely hope and pray that the present distressing events may be so overruled by the hand of God as either to destroy her power and break up her "integrity," or, if possible, to change her spirit and start her towards becoming a new nation in character. That is what every friend of peace would pray to see.

Events have moved with great rapidity on the Thessalian frontier since the Greek irregulars crossed the border on April 9th and attacked some of the Turkish outposts. The whole Greek nation, enraged beyond restraint at the action of the powers in blockading Crete and threatening the blockade of the Piraeus, had been carried away into a frenzied enthusiasm for war. The Greek armies had been rapidly mobilized and sent to the frontier. The action of the irregulars, continued for two or three days, finally brought the opposing forces into open hostilities which soon extended along the whole frontier from Milouna pass on the northeast to the Gulf of Arta on the southwest. The whole world knows the result. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were broken off, and a state of war as existing declared by Turkey. After fierce and stubborn fighting on both sides, the Turks drove the Greeks from Milouna pass. Then came the encounter north of Larrissa at Mati, the defeat of the Greeks, their retreat from Larrissa, their headquarters, and their present efforts to make a new stand at Pharsalos. Along the border in Epirus on the west, hostilities have also raged with the advantage mostly with the Greeks until within a day or two, when they have grown discouraged and somewhat disorganized. The Greek fleet, which the unseaworthy Turkish vessels have not ventured forth to meet, has had its own way, almost, in bombarding and destroying Turkish towns and villages on the coast. It has threatened to bombard

Salonica, the Turkish headquarters at the head of the bay of the same name, but has not yet done so.

The defeat and disorganization of the Greek forces has produced a depressing and maddening effect on the people, especially at Athens. The disorder in the city was great for two or three days, "some crying one thing and some another." Mobs paraded the streets and stoned the palace, breaking in the windows. At one time both the King's throne and his life seemed in imminent danger. The leaders of the army were declared to have ordered the retreat from Larrissa without cause. The ministry was charged with having needlessly brought on the war, and betrayed the people, though it is well known that the clamors of the people had practically forced the king and his advisers forward.

On the 29th ult., Mr. Delyannis and his cabinet were forced to resign, and the opposition were asked to form a government, which they proceeded to do with Mr. Ralli, the leader of the opposition and the chief critic of the course pursued in Thessaly, at its head.

At this writing the two armies in Thessaly are in close contact at Pharsalos and a battle, which it is supposed will be decisive, is expected at any moment. There is talk of immediate intervention by the powers to bring about peace. It is said that Turkey is ready to cease fighting, on condition that the status existing before the outbreak of hostilities be restored, that Greece indemnify her for the expense of mobilizing her army, and that Crete be given an autonomous government as previously proposed by the Powers. But there is nothing definite.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Annual Business Meeting of the American Peace Society, for the election of officers, the receiving of the reports of the Board of Directors and of the Treasurer, etc., will be held in Pilgrim Hall, Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street, Boston, Wednesday, May 12, at 2.30 p. m. It is hoped that all members of the Society who are within reach of Boston will make a special effort to be present.

We begin in this issue the publication of a new translation of Kant's "Eternal Peace." Several translations of the essay have been made in England, but we know of no American translation. The essay was written something over a hundred years ago, and is an application of the principles of the great thinker's political philosophy to the problem of international peace now so prominently before the civilized world. The discussion in Kant's little treatise goes to the very root of the subject, and though it is sometimes obtruse and academic, it will well repay the careful study of those who are interested in knowing the history of thought on this great subject.

The tractate is not very long and will run through only about three numbers of the *ADVOCATE*.

It seems somewhat astonishing that after the matter has been so often explained, there should still be so much ignorance in the House of Commons and also in this country as to the distribution of the Geneva award fund. Here is a note in the *Independent* of April 15 which shows how widespread this ignorance is:

"A college president writes us to inquire whether we were not wrong in intimating that if any of the Geneva award remained undistributed, legitimate claims for actual losses having been satisfied, it ought to be returned to Great Britain. The point he makes is that England was fined by the Geneva tribunal for violating international law. We are quite clear that our correspondent is mistaken. The question before the tribunal was as to whether claims made by the United States for indemnity for the destruction of American vessels were claims for which Great Britain was properly liable. It found that the British Government had not observed its obligations as a neutral power, and, while it excluded all indirect claims of the United States, for example, for the loss inflicted by changing its commercial marine to the British flag to avoid the depredations of the Confederate cruisers, the enhanced cost of insurance and the additional expense incurred in putting down the rebellion, it made its award of \$15,500,000 as 'indemnity for the satisfaction of all claims,' which claims it declared are 'hereby fully, perfectly and finally satisfied.' There was no fine imposed for violation of international law. The damages assessed were actual and not exemplary damages. Since our note was written referring to the inquiry in the British Parliament as to an alleged unexpended balance of \$3,500,000, we have learned by correspondence with the State Department that there is no undistributed residue of the award. The amount was exhausted by the awards of the Second Court of Alabama claims, 1882-1885."

Christian Work has the following sensible note on the recent agreement of the United States and Mexico to submit to arbitration the claim for indemnity made by two American citizens for alleged hardships on the Mexican frontier:

"Arbitration is at the fore again. The United States and Mexico have agreed to submit to arbitration the claim for indemnity made by two American citizens for alleged hardships and outrages suffered by them while on the Mexican Frontier. No general Arbitration treaty exists between the two countries, but one was agreed to many years ago whereby such cases as these could be arbitrated upon the consent of the Governments. When this agreement was made it had not entered into the heads of the members of a recalcitrant Senate that war should be avoided only by consent of two-thirds of that body! We add that under this agreement reasonable compensation to the arbitrator and other common expenses caused by the arbitration are to be paid in equal moieties by the two Governments. Any award made will be final and conclusive, and if in favor of the claimants, or either of them, and of the contention of the United States, the amount awarded must be paid by the Mexican

Government within two years from the date of award. It is fortunate for the country that this agreement is quite beyond the reach of the present Senate."

On April 14th a number of ex-Secretary Olney's friends in Boston, of all shades of political opinion, invited him to meet them at dinner in order that they might show their appreciation of "the ability, courage, disinterestedness and straightforward dealing with which, during his absence from them, he had administered two great offices." With characteristic modesty the distinguished ex-Secretary declined the invitation, ostensibly because he could not give an early date, but doubtless really because he shrinks from being publicly lionized. Here is his reply:

"GENTLEMEN: I have your note of the 14th inst., in which you refer in complimentary terms to my administration of the offices of Attorney-General and Secretary of State of the United States, and, as a mark of your respect ask me to meet you at dinner on such day as I may name.

So flattering an invitation should have, of course, an immediate and definite response, and as my arrangements for the next few weeks prevent my accepting for an early date, the alternative is to decline, which, under the circumstances, is, I think, the only course properly open to me.

In doing so you will permit me to say that nothing could be more gratifying than such an invitation, induced by such considerations as are set forth in your note. In public life the only compensations worth any man's while are the consciousness of having rendered services to the state, or, if the attempt to render them fail, the knowledge that his honest efforts in that direction are appreciated by those whose opinion is most worth having. The sentiments of your note assure me that, in your judgment, I have at least tried to do my duty, and make me, with many thanks,

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD OLNEY."

There are increasing evidences of the growing strength of the peace movement in Europe. The Danish parliament recently refused by a large majority a credit of several hundred thousand francs asked for by the government for the purpose of strengthening the fortifications about the capital. The National Representatives consider such an outlay altogether useless. A similar action took place not long ago in the German parliament. The Budget Committee of the Reichstag refused to grant a portion of the sum asked for by the Navy Department for the purpose of securing new iron-clads. The Emperor's determination to make of Germany a maritime power of the first rank finds little sympathy among the national Representatives. The action of the Budget Committee in refusing the sum asked for was approved by the Reichstag.

On the occasion of the recent general elections in Austria, the Austrian Peace Society issued and circulated

by thousands a vigorous address to the electors asking that only candidates be voted for who would agree to unite with the Interparliamentary Peace Union, if elected, and give their support in every way possible to the cause of arbitration and international peace. The address contains a clear and powerful statement of the reasons why Europe should abandon the present rivalry in armaments.

Queen Victoria has expressed the desire that the anniversary that makes her preëminent in the extended list of British sovereigns for the longest reign shall be signalized by the ratification of the arbitration treaty. The Queen, in manifesting this desire, is the interpreter of the wishes of all the best citizens of her great empire as President McKinley and his distinguished predecessor have both, in their expressions about the treaty, so clearly interpreted the wishes and hopes of the people of the United States.

It is rumored that negotiations are in progress for the purchase by Great Britain of the Delagoa Bay. Portuguese finances are in bad shape and the government at Lisbon is thought to be ready in return for a large loan from British capitalists to sell the disputed Bay region to Great Britain. The case has long been under reference to arbitration but not much progress has been made toward a solution by the Swiss Arbitrators.

The question of permanent treaties of arbitration was brought before the Belgian House of Representatives on the 3d of March. Representative de Broqueville interpellated the Minister of Foreign Affairs as to the intention of the government in the matter of concluding permanent treaties of arbitration with foreign governments. In the course of his remarks he insisted that an arbitral agreement between a few governments would be sufficient to banish war from the earth. The prejudices of governments were the only thing in the way. National independence would not be in the least affected by treaties of arbitration. Arbitration had been perfectly successful wherever tried. Mr. de Broqueville was supported by Representatives Denis and Lorand, who recalled the efforts which had frequently been made by Belgium in favor of arbitration. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, in responding to the interpellation, expressed his entire sympathy with arbitration, thought the question ought to be examined seriously, but feared that cases of arbitration were not yet numerous enough to render the establishment of a permanent tribunal easy. At the conclusion of the Minister's response the House passed unanimously the following resolution:

"The House approves of the declarations of the government and expresses its desire that governments submit their differences to arbitration, enter into treaties of

arbitration for this purpose and organize a permanent system of judicial arbitration."

France and Brazil have signed a treaty referring the French Guiana-Brazil boundary dispute to arbitration. The territory in dispute is said to be larger than that at issue between Great Britain and Venezuela, and to contain valuable gold-mining districts. The president of the Swiss republic has been selected as arbitrator. We do not know whether the senseless and expensive racket raised over the Venezuela-British Guiana boundary question has had anything to do with bringing about this agreement between France and Brazil in such a quiet way. Possibly it has. Or is it because France is more civilized than Great Britain and Brazil than Venezuela? At any rate, Franco-Brazilian diplomacy does not suffer by comparison with that of Great Britain and Venezuela. How much more sensible and honorable quietly to refer such a dispute to an impartial tribunal before passion is aroused and indefinite mischief done! It is true such a course does not receive much attention in the newspapers. The morning paper, before our eyes this instant, has just two inches actual measurement, about this last agreement. But a good and wise thing, even if unnoticed, is worth incalculably more to the world than a wicked, stupid one, even though the latter may be noised abroad by all the newspaper trumpets.

The Australian federal convention, which concluded its work on the 31st of March, prepared and adopted a plan by which Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania, South Australia and West Australia are hereafter to have a federal government. The powers, privileges and territory of the separate colonies are to remain intact. The power of imposing and collecting customs and excise duties and military and naval control are to be vested in the federal parliament. Trade between the colonies is to be perfectly free. The parliament is to consist of a senate and house of representatives. The executive is to consist of a governor-general appointed by the Queen. The judiciary will be a supreme federal court, which will serve as a court of appeal for the colonies. When this plan goes into effect, it ought to do much in many ways for the English colonies in Australia. The federation will be like that of the Dominion of Canada. The constitution which has been prepared will be presented to the separate colonial parliaments and if adopted by them will then be submitted to a direct vote of the people. If adopted, it will then go to the Imperial Parliament and to the Queen for their assent.

The annual report of the Austrian Peace Society for 1896 has just come to our table. It is a nicely printed pamphlet of 112 pages, containing a full stenographic report of the annual meeting held in the Hotel Continental,

Vienna, on the 12th of December, the annual financial statement, a list of the members of the Society covering forty pages, and other matters of interest connected with the peace movement. The Society now has members in about two hundred and twenty-five cities and villages of Austria-Hungary, among whom are many persons of eminence both in political and in civil life. The Baroness von Suttner has been the honored and trusted president of the Society ever since its organization six years ago.

Sir Walter Besant has suggested, and fortified his suggestion with what seem to him sufficient reasons, that the whole English-speaking world, in the interests of its peace and unity, set apart the day of Shakespeare's birth as a holiday. This suggestion will appeal powerfully to literary men and to the multitudes of readers of Shakespeare in all English-speaking countries, but we doubt if it will strike a chord in the common breast sufficiently strong to secure its realization. Shakespeare represents for the most part the literary element only in Anglo-Saxon life, not those powerful moral and spiritual forces which are making the Anglo-Saxon the great civilizer of the world. Any man whose birthday should give us a general Anglo-Saxon holiday would have to represent these forces, whatever else he might stand for. The peace associations of Europe, at the suggestion of an Englishman, Mr. Felix Moscheles, have already begun to observe Washington's birthday as a day for simultaneous demonstrations in favor of arbitration and peace. It is possible, but hardly probable, that in this way the day may grow into not simply an Anglo-Saxon but an international holiday. There are many reasons why it should, for the Great Republic of which Washington was the "Father" is a model of what the final federation of the world must be to establish universal and perpetual peace. The time may come when the claims of William Penn's birthday to be the Anglo-Saxon and even the world holiday will be recognized. If such a holiday is ever set apart in connection with the birth of any man, whoever he may be, he will have to be of the type of Penn. The Anglo-Saxon race, the world will never unite on any other type.

Blessed be silence! Senator Morgan finished on the 13th of April his four days' speech on his resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba. He had spoken, he said, "at great personal discomfort to himself and possibly to the disgust of some senators," but duty compelled him to lay before the Senate and the country the grounds for the recognition of a state of war in Cuba! The course of our government, he declared, led to the belief that it was more in sympathy with the old Bourbon dynasty of Spain than with our own people, who he was sure can not be restrained much longer but will soon be pouring across the Gulf of Mexico to avenge the wrongs

done the Cubans by Spain! If Senator Morgan could realize how many *millions* of people outside of the Senate are disgusted with his recent course on Cuba, on the Arbitration Treaty, and all other matters of public importance, he would not open his mouth in public debate again for four years if ever. However, we have to thank the Senator for doing what he has not intended to do. His voice has been for war, but the influence of his endless loquacity and his belligerent unreasonableness has been for peace. He has run jingoism to seed and done much to turn all the sensible jingoists from the error of their ways into the paths of peace.

Diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Venezuela have been officially resumed, though the British Minister to Caracas has not yet been named. Dr. Juan Pietri has been sent by Venezuela as Minister at the Court of St. James. The boundary treaty has been ratified by the Venezuelan Congress.

President McKinley has decided to appoint another expert commission to act in conjunction with one already selected by Great Britain to visit Behring Sea this summer, and continue the study of the conditions of seal life there. The British government has named the same commissioners it employed in this capacity last year, Prof. Thompson and Gerald B. Hamilton. Our commissioners were President Jordan of Stanford University, and Profs. Stegner and Lucas. Whether these same experts will be reappointed will be determined in the course of a few days. It is the purpose of the State Department to endeavor to secure the consent of the British government to the adoption of a *modus vivendi* suspending all sealing on land and sea while the experts are at work during the approaching season. Negotiations in this direction are now in progress. It is declared by English papers that the reopening of the seal question will prove a blow to arbitration. We think quite the contrary, provided the matter proceeds in a cordial and friendly manner. The question is not really being reopened. It has been open all the time, as England has practically confessed by appointing a commission of investigation. The present continued friendly investigation is, to our thinking, one of the very best fruits of arbitration, and it seems to require no little pessimism to find in it any detriment to arbitration hereafter.

Dr. W. Evans Darby, Secretary of the London Peace Society, has compiled and had printed for the use of the Special Committee of the International Law Association, of which he is the honorary secretary, the various schemes which have been proposed for securing the peace of the nations by international tribunals and like methods. The compilation includes the Amphyctionic Council, the Great Design of Henry the Fourth, William Penn's

Scheme, the Abbé de St. Pierre's Scheme, Bentham's Proposals, Kant's Eternal Peace, Leoni Levi's Project, the Institute of International Law's Rules, the Proposal of the Swiss Federal Council to the U. S. in 1883, the Pan-American Draft, Sir Edmund Hornby's Plan, the Chicago Congress Draft, the Interparliamentary Conference Scheme, the Memorial of the New York Bar Association, Professor Corsi's Rules, the Anglo-American Treaty, and the Rules proposed by the International Law Association. To these are added a list of 140 cases of settlement by arbitration since 1815. The whole is handsomely printed in a book of 168 pages bound in scarlet cloth.

Dr. Darby writes from London that the Arbitration petition of the churches has now been completed and is to be presented at once to the governments of the nations. This petition was begun in 1893. Dr. Campbell of Richmond, Va., since deceased, was the originator of it. The subject was taken up by the Ecclesiastical Conference held at Chicago at the time of the Peace Congress in August 1893. Through Dr. Campbell's efforts the petition was signed by representative officials of all the leading religious bodies in the United States. It has since been signed, through the efforts of the Arbitration Alliance of the British Churches, by representatives of the religious organizations in Great Britain and of some on the Continent. It thus represents the voice of many millions of Christians, and is perhaps the most united expression of Christendom ever given on the subject. A copy in the language of the country will be presented to the head of each of the civilized nations. One has been prepared for the government of the United States and will be presented to President McKinley at an early date.

The Costa Rica Packet Case between Great Britain and Holland has been decided in favor of the former country. The Dutch government, according to the decision of the arbitrator, has to pay the captain, crew and owner of the vessel a total sum of £8,500, with interest from November 2d, 1891, and £250 further as costs.

Mrs. Laura Ormiston Chant, well known in this country as in England for her advocacy of peace and temperance, has gone with a corps of Red Cross workers to Athens to undertake relief work among the wounded and suffering in Crete and other places of conflict between the Greeks and Turks. The corps consists of seven English hospital nurses and forty English, Italian, Danish and Swedish volunteers. They reached Corfu on April 12th, and immediately left for Athens and were enthusiastically cheered as they departed. The Red Cross, which carries the principles of Christianity and of humanity right into the heart of the inhuman ravings and desolations of war, is a standing reproof of the whole system of human butch-

ery, and is proving, in its noiseless ministry of love, a mighty instrument for the condemnation and ultimate destruction of war. Henri Dunant, the history of whose work in founding the Red Cross, from the pen of Professor Rudolf Müller, we are giving in the last and in the current number of the *ADVOCATE*, deserves to rank among the clearest sighted and noblest spirited men of this century. From Dunant's words quoted by Professor Müller it is clear that the Genevan philanthropist had clearly in his mind the ultimate destruction of the whole wicked system of war, whose evils he did so much to alleviate. What a fine undertone of rebuke to the military nations is heard in these words in which in 1862 he gives the reasons for the existence of an organization like the Red Cross: "Since we must still despair of the wishes and hopes of the associations of the friends of peace, since men will yet for a good while mutually destroy one another without hating one another, and since it will be considered the greatest glory of war to destroy as many men's lives as possible, since people venture still to assert with Joseph de Maistre that there is something godlike in war, since men every day with a perseverance worthy of a better cause invent increasingly fearful means of destruction, etc." It makes one both sad and indignant to think that men will still by their hate and their beastliness deliberately make such scenes of woe as the Red Cross workers are compelled to witness while they strive heroically to undo in a small and feeble way what the passions of men have done in such a large and horrifying manner. Red Cross delegations from other countries are also on the scene of the war.

Few people in this country know even the name of the originator of the Universal Postal Union by which two thirds of the population of the globe have been brought into easier postal relations with one another. This benefactor of the race, Dr. von Stephan, died recently in Berlin, and it is to be hoped that he may some day have a monument in Westminster Abbey along side of that of the inventor of penny postage, and in all other places where national benefactors of any country are thus honored. Dr. von Stephan was born in Pomerania. At the age of eighteen he became connected with the German postal service where he remained until his death. In 1870 he became Director General of the Prussian Post Office, and when the Empire was established two years later he was made Director of Posts and Telegraphs. It was through his efforts that the telephone and the pneumatic tube were introduced into the German service. He was honored with many decorations and titles, but the greatest of these was his nickname, by which he was known throughout Germany, Post-Stephan.

The International Postal Congress is to meet in Wash-

ington on the 5th of May and continue in session about six weeks. The Post Office Department has leased the old Corcoran Art Gallery and will fit it up especially for the use of the Congress. The Postal Union embraces the whole world except China, Corea and the Orange Free State. These countries are expected to enter the Union this year and to send delegates to this Congress.

Each nation may send as many delegates as it likes but has only one vote. The Congress will be held with closed doors and the proceedings are to be conducted in the French language. The members of the Congress will be entertained by President McKinley at the White House, and will make a number of excursions to places of historic interest and to study the postal system of this country. Congress is expected to appropriate \$100,000 to defray the expenses of the Congress.

Pastor Otto Umfrid of Stuttgart, who has become one of the most vigorous champions of the peace cause in Germany, and recently stirred up among the military folk of his region a good deal of antagonism by his bold arraignment of the ordinary conceptions of war, has just published a book of one hundred and fifty pages entitled *Friede auf Erden* (Peace on Earth). The subjects treated are: "War on the Defensive," "Christianity and War," "The Peace Idea and Patriotism," "The Peace Movement and the Future of Europe," "The Federated States of Europe," "The Peace of Frankfort," "The Armenian Horrors and the Pacification of the East." There are also "Letters to the German Women," and "Pictures and Sketches from the Peace Movement." An appendix is added containing interesting matter touching the peace movement. Some of the articles in the book have been previously published in German papers. Our readers will remember the interesting one on "The Peace of Frankfort," a translation of which appeared some months ago in the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*.

President McKinley has taken the first step toward the international monetary conference which he has been authorized by the recent action of Congress to call. He has appointed Senator E. O. Wolcott, of Colorado, Ex-Vice-President Adlai Stevenson, and General Charles J. Paine of Boston a Commission to go to Europe to prepare the way for the invitations to the conference, which he expects to issue later. Senator Wolcott represents the silver Republicans, Mr. Stevenson the silver Democrats and Mr. Paine the bimetallicists of both parties. The President believes that Great Britain, France, Germany and other commercial nations can be induced to send delegates to a new international monetary conference, though the report of Senator Wolcott who was unofficially in Europe last year does not indicate that these nations will agree to the free coinage of silver at any other

than the commercial ratio, though they will possibly agree upon a larger use of silver. Whatever may be the outcome of the new Conference, if called, in the matter of international bimetallicism, it will unquestionably be a useful meeting as a step toward the satisfactory adjustment of the money question, which everything indicates must hereafter be handled from an international instead of from a national standpoint, as has been the case so much in the past. The money question is now more difficult than ever precisely because it has passed, with so many other questions, into the international stage.

The battle-ship *Iowa*, the last of the premium-built battleships of the navy, made an average of seventeen knots an hour, on April 7, over the regular government course off the Massachusetts coast in the four hours' speed trial required by the government under the contract. Her builders, the Cramps of Philadelphia, thus won the bonus of \$200,000 offered under the contract. The *Iowa* "is to-day the acknowledged queen of the navy, if not the most formidable battle-ship afloat." The bonus given to the Cramps for building this death-dealing monster was exactly the same in amount as the sum voted by Congress to assist in relieving the thousands of flood-stricken families in the lower Mississippi districts! Two hundred thousand dollars is considered a large and generous sum when given to a really humane and Christian object, but when given as an extra inducement to make a superior instrument of death it is a mere nothing! However, the government has become so virtuous that it does not propose to give any more of these bonuses. In this connection, we are glad to notice that Secretary Long proposes as fast as possible to reduce the expenses of the navy department by calling in a number of the war-ships whose meanderings about the sea and location at particular points seem to be at present without any particular aim. This is a very commendable project on the part of the new Secretary.

President James B. Angell of Michigan University has accepted an appointment as special Minister to Turkey to secure a settlement of the claims made by our government against the Porte for destruction of missionary property during the Armenian massacres. Dr. Angell declined the offer made to him of the permanent ministry at Constantinople, but felt it his duty to accept this special mission. The appointment is a most excellent one, and has given much satisfaction in missionary circles. President Angell is one of the corporate members of the American Board, and being already skilled in diplomatic negotiation he will doubtless be able to bring about a settlement of these claims in a comparatively brief time.

The third Mohonk Annual Conference on International Arbitration will be held at Lake Mohonk, N. Y., on the

2d, 3d and 4th of June. Mr. Smiley has sent out invitations to a large number of influential men and women to be his guests on the occasion, and the Conference will undoubtedly be one of exceptional interest and importance. It is expected that ex-Senator Edmunds will preside again this year.

The Secretary of the American Peace Society gave two lectures on "The Federation of the World" the 5th and 6th of April before the Faculty and students of the Meadville Theological Seminary, Meadville, Pa. The lectures were on the Adin Ballou foundation for the promotion of Practical Christian Sociology. Subsequently, on the 8th ult., the Secretary delivered a lecture on "War and Peace at the Close of the 19th Century" at the Oakwood Seminary, Union Springs, N. Y., and repeated the same lecture the next evening in the Friends Church at Poplar Ridge, N. Y. The Secretary has also recently given addresses on Arbitration and Peace at Whitman and Brockton, Mass., and before the Young Men's Christian Union of Boston.

HISTORY OF THE ORIGIN OF THE RED CROSS AND OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

BY PROFESSOR RUDOLF MÜLLER.

(CONCLUDED FROM APRIL NUMBER.)

The International Conference at Geneva, made possible through Dunant's tireless exertions, was in time held there from the 26th to the 29th of October, 1863. Fourteen powers were officially represented at it (Württemberg by the priests Dr. Hahn and Dr. Wagner); some others had in advance declared their acceptance of the conclusions had in view. Besides, several princes had either sent personal representatives or expressed their sympathy by letter. The conclusions of the Conference, in whose development the German representatives had taken special part, referred to the formation of central committees and sections in the separate lands, which should enter into proper relations with their respective governments, to the preparation in times of peace for rendering assistance during war, to the sending out of voluntary nurses in case of war, to the adoption of a common mark of recognition, namely, the white arm-band with a red cross on it, and to the meeting of the committees of the different countries in international congresses. Besides this, the following arrangements were declared advisable: (1) The support of the committees of aid by their governments; (2) The neutralization of the entire military and voluntary sanitary personnel, which Dunant had hinted at in his "A Reminiscence of Solferino," and clearly set forth even before the Conference of 1863, especially during his stay at Berlin; and (3) The adoption of a common mark of recognition for the sanitary corps of all armies or at least of all persons of the same corps, and a uniform flag for the ambulances and hospitals of all lands.

Before separating the Conference gave expression to its recognition of the services of Dunant and of the Geneva General Aid Society in these terms: "That Mr. Henry Dunant, because he has, by his unrelenting efforts, brought about an international inquiry as to the means to

be employed on the battle-field for the efficient protection of the wounded, and the Geneva General Aid Society, because it has furnished so powerful a point of support for the noble cause which Mr. Dunant has championed, have deserved well of humanity and won an incontestable right to general gratitude."

Immediately after the close of the Conference Dunant went to Paris, where he immediately attempted to bring about the formation of a central committee, just as he had even before the Conference at Berlin given the impulse for the creation of the Prussian Central Committee. At the same time he strove for the realization of a formal international compact, inasmuch as the resolutions passed and the wishes expressed at the Conference were only the expression of the opinions of the governments which took part in it, but could have no binding force. This second part of the task undertaken by the Geneva Commission, namely the realization of the wishes expressed by the meeting, was by no means light; for, to give these wishes a standing in international law, it was necessary to induce the different states to take upon them definite treaty obligations, and a proceeding of this sort was at that time something entirely new. The simplest and in part the only way was the calling of a diplomatic congress of real plenipotentiaries of the separate states. Since the answers of the governments to the questions sent to them by the Geneva Commission in November, 1863, were for the most part favorable, the congress was virtually assured. But a further difficulty was the form of the invitation. This could not be given by a Commission of a private character as was that of Geneva. For this difficulty the steps which Dunant personally took in Paris brought a fortunate solution. At the suggestion of Napoleon III, who had long before shown great liking for Dunant and his aims and took a lively interest in the success of the work, Dunant put himself in communication with the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Drouyn de Lhuys, who promised that if the Swiss Federal Council would issue the invitation to the civilized states for the Congress, France as a great military power would support it and answer for its favorable reception by the states to be invited. This support of France, and the sympathy which Prussia had previously often shown, removed completely all difficulties.

The invitation, which the Swiss Federal Council sent out on the 6th of June, 1864, was attended with the best results. Of the twenty-five states invited sixteen sent official representatives to the Congress, which met from the 8th to the 22nd of August, 1864, and, at Dunant's personal request, in his native city, Geneva. The fruit of this Congress was the Geneva Convention, whose character is of course known, and which has since been adopted, not only by the civilized nations of Europe but also by those of the remotest parts of the world.

Thus it was that, in spite of difficulties which the work met with from traditionalism, military prejudices and the dire necessities of war, with the coöperation of diplomacy, a check was put upon the cruel power of war and through this convention a new rule of war was established for all peoples and for all times. The banner of mercy, the white flag with the red cross, is henceforth destined to wave on every battlefield and to spread its protective folds over every wounded soldier.

And that was not enough! This *first* example of a convention concluded between a *large number* of states